



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending November 18, 2018
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Cold, Dry Weather Advances Fieldwork

There were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending November 18, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Below normal temperatures continued this week, with overnight lows falling into the teens and single digits. Precipitation was light, and anywhere from a trace to about an inch of snow fell on Friday and Saturday. Muddy fields firmed considerably as the ground started to freeze, particularly in northern Wisconsin. However, the frost was still shallow in many areas, keeping fields treacherous for heavy machinery and fully loaded grain wagons. Farmers across the state were working to bring in the last of their soybeans and corn. Snow on the ground hampered combining for some, while partially frozen soils interfered with fall tillage and manure spreading for others. Some reporters commented that manure pit emptying was behind schedule due to the delays in the soybean harvest.

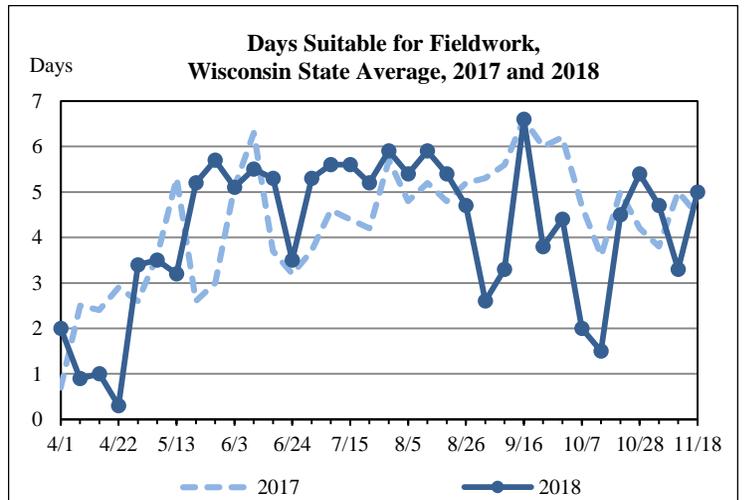
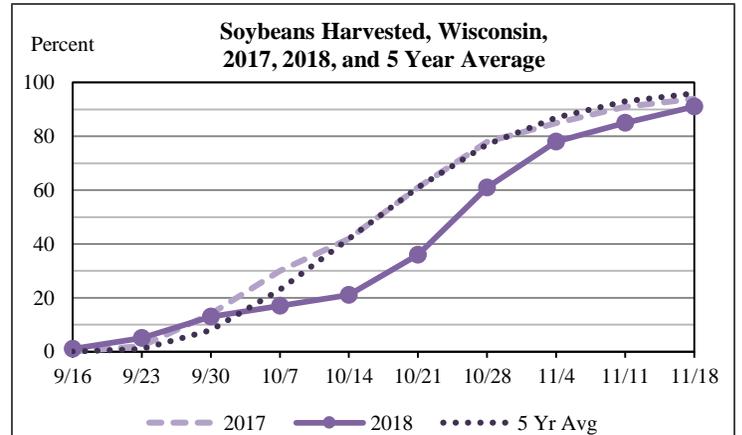
Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 22 percent surplus.

Corn harvested for grain was 80 percent complete, 7 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of the 5-year average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 18 percent.

Soybeans harvest was 91 percent complete, 7 days behind last year and 9 days behind the average.

Eighty-eight percent of the **winter wheat** crop has emerged, 9 days behind last year. Winter wheat condition was 77 percent good to excellent.

Fall tillage was reported at 58 percent complete, 1 day ahead of last year, but 6 days behind the average.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 18, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Winter Wheat	1	2	20	57	20

Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of November 18, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn Harvested for Grain...	80	77	69	77	73	69	89	88	80	80	69	67	77
Fall Tillage.....	71	47	62	50	59	65	64	49	61	58	44	57	65
Soybeans Harvested	96	82	69	92	92	85	95	94	96	91	85	94	96
Winter Wheat Emerged.....	100	99	91	88	93	88	82	84	85	88	80	95	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of November 18, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	4.7	3.9	5.3	5.1	4.6	5.2	5.8	4.8	5.5	5.0	3.3	4.5
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	4
Adequate.....	83	90	53	81	69	59	96	70	62	75	72	86
Surplus	17	10	47	18	28	40	4	30	38	24	28	10
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	0	0	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	5
Adequate.....	89	94	68	87	71	60	90	69	65	77	74	87
Surplus	11	6	30	10	26	39	10	31	35	22	25	7

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON-T.B.: Cold temperatures and snow affected field work this week. Crop residue and snow cover has kept the frost out of the ground, but standing crops (corn and soybeans) allowed frost to penetrate deep enough to carry combines. Some tillage and manure injection into fields with no frost, but freezing temps have affected all operations in one way or another.

BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-C.B.: Below normal temperatures most of the week. Some snow cover throughout most of the area.

CLARK/PRICE/TAYLOR-D.M.: A lot of acres of beans and corn to harvest yet. Frozen ground should help, but delaying harvest also means delaying manure application and capacity is a problem.

SHAWANO-B.R.: We have had very cold temperatures which froze the ground considerably. This allowed many farmers a chance to run the combines through some fields that were very wet. We were able to get a lot of corn off that would have been almost impossible without the frost. There was also a day or two suitable for getting the last of the soybeans off with moisture in the 13-15 percent range. A fair amount of tillage was also done when the frost was beginning to set in.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Some harvesting early in the week. Snow and cold arrived later in the week, shutting down or significantly slowing field work.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: COLD! Farmers struggling to keep the harvest rolling between cold and snow. Dryer inefficiency with these cold temperatures adds an additional insult to the cost of corn production.

ADAMS/JUNEAU-J.W.: Some progress was made with harvest. A lot of corn is still fairly high in moisture. There are some soybeans still in the field but unsure if they will be harvested or not.

CALUMET-K.P.: Cold temperatures and no precipitation allowed producers to wrap up soybean harvest, get some corn combined, and get some fields worked up. Corn moistures varied from 15 to 24 percent. The upcoming week's forecast mostly looks good for continued progress.

OZAUKEE/SHEBOYGAN -G.S.: The snow is hindering harvest for some. The few days with sunshine were welcomed amongst the cloudy days. Winter wheat is doing okay, some producers are worried what it will look like in spring if it makes it until then. A few producers are seeing a little mold in the corn but not much and just in spots.

VERNON-K.L.: Farmers trying to finish soybean harvest and a few more working on corn. Still a few beans out there and plenty of corn still standing. Received 1-2 inches of snow in time for deer hunting. Temperatures still below normal by 10-15 degrees this week. Some farmers still talking about putting in cover crops. Not sure how they will turn out when it is this late in the season.

DODGE-M.P.: Producers are still combining corn and beans. The ground is starting to freeze up so some wet ground can start to be harvested. Snow arrived on Friday and Saturday which ended most combining for now. The focus this weekend is on deer hunting. Good luck everyone and be safe.

ROCK-C.O.: Harvest winding down, but fall tillage difficult with the wet soil conditions.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Some producers still fighting the weather conditions to get the crops out. Some fall tillage getting done while the topsoil is frozen. It has been a trying fall.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 18, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) ¹		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Nov. 17	Mar. 1 to Nov. 17 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	30	16	41	4	23	-11	2896	2597	0.00	10.12	+3.00	36.95	+6.67
Green Bay	33	21	40	13	27	-9	2853	2454	0.04	10.85	+4.28	37.94	+11.04
La Crosse	34	22	43	15	28	-9	3467	2950	0.07	11.62	+4.87	40.76	+10.57
Madison	34	21	41	13	27	-10	3078	2919	0.09	14.82	+8.27	53.80	+23.58
Milwaukee	36	25	40	17	30	-10	3131	n.a.	0.10	13.98	+6.70	44.79	+13.47

¹ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites: <http://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <http://www.cocorahs.org/> <http://www.weather.gov/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.